

Appln. No. 10/687,384

Attorney Docket No. 10541-1868

II. Remarks

Reconsideration and re-examination of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is herein respectfully requested. Claims 2-26 remain pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant respectfully acknowledges the allowability of claims 7-24 and 26. Further, the examiner indicated that claims 2-6 were objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form including all the elements of previous claim 1. Claims 3-6 depend from claim 2 and are, therefore, patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 2.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,220,385 to Bohner et al. (Bohner).

Claim 1 has been cancelled. Claim 25 has been amended to depend from claim 2, and is, therefore, patentable for at least the same reasons as given above in support of claim 2.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present form of the claims are patentably distinguishable over the art of

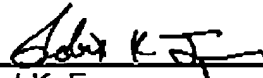
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record and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted by,

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